IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim [[46]] 53, further comprising ~~transmitting a signal from~~ at least one sensor located below the axially extendable tool and adjacent to the signal transducing downhole device.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim 22, wherein the at least one sensor measures temperature.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim 22, wherein the at least one sensor measures pressure.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim 22, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a drill bit and one or more of the at least one sensors measures chemical characteristics of a fluid around the drill bit.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim [[46]] 53, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a thruster ~~and actuating the thruster is~~ actuatable by an electrical transmission from a surface of ~~a well~~ the wellbore.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim [[46]] 53, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a drilling hammer ~~and actuating the drilling hammer is~~ actuatable by an electrical transmission from a surface of ~~a well~~ the wellbore.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim [[46]] 53, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a stabilizer ~~and actuating the stabilizer is~~ actuatable by an electrical transmission from a surface of ~~a well~~ the wellbore.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim [[46]] 53, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a rotatable steering apparatus ~~and actuating the rotatable steering apparatus~~ actuatable is by an electrical transmission from a surface of ~~a well~~ the wellbore.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim [[46]] 53, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a vibrator ~~and actuating the vibrator is~~ actuatable by an electrical transmission from a surface of ~~a well~~ the wellbore.

31 - 46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim [[46]] 53, wherein the signal path includes a wall of the ~~signal conducting~~ axially extendable tool.

48. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim 47, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a drill bit.

49. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim 47, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a vibrator ~~and actuating the vibrator is~~ actuatable by an electrical transmission from a surface of ~~a well~~ the wellbore.

50. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ assembly of claim 47, wherein the signal transducing downhole device is a rotatable steering apparatus ~~and actuating the rotatable steering apparatus is~~ actuatable by an electrical transmission from a surface of ~~a well~~ the wellbore.

51-52. (Cancelled)

53. (Currently Amended) An assembly for use in a wellbore, comprising:
a tubular string;

a signal transducing downhole device; and

an axially extendable tool located between the signal transducing downhole device and an upper end of the tubular string, comprising:

a signal path therethrough,

a flow path therethrough,

a housing,

a mandrel axially movable relative to the housing, and

an axially displaceable electrical coupling between the housing and the mandrel.

54. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 53, wherein the signal path is isolated from the flow path.

55. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 53, wherein the signal path is isolated from any flow path through the axially extendable tool.

56-58. (Canceled)

59. (New) The assembly of claim 53, wherein the axially displaceable electrical coupling comprises a plurality of contacts disposed on a surface of one of the housing and the mandrel and at least one contact disposed on a corresponding surface of the other of the housing and the mandrel.